

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A console for an appliance having a cabinet with a top cover, comprising:

a body having a first side surface and a second side surface;

a pair of first feet and a pair of second feet extending downwardly from the body for mounting the console to the top cover;

the first feet being adapted to fit through slots in the top cover of the appliance, such that the first feet fits through the slots, the body moves toward a first edge of the slots, and the body flexes when the first feet are obstructed by the first edge of the slots;

the second feet being adapted to fit through slots in the top cover of the appliance, such that the second feet ~~fits~~fit through the slots when the body flexes and the second feet engage a second edge of the slots when the body is static.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): The console of claim 1 further comprising a front surface between the first side surface and the second side surface, front feet extending downwardly from the front surface, the front feet adapted to fit through slots in the top cover of the appliance, such that the front feet ~~fits~~fit through the slots, the body moves toward ~~the~~[[a]]the first edge of the first slots, and the body flexes when the front feet are obstructed by the first edge of the slots.

Claim 3 (Original): The console of claim 2 wherein the front surface is an arc.

Claim 4 (Original): The console of claim 1 wherein the first feet have a first recess adapted to engage the first edge of the slots.

Claim 5 (Original): The console of claim 1 wherein the second feet have a second recess adapted to engage the second edge of the slots.

Claim 6 (Original): The console of claim 2 wherein the front feet have a first recess adapted to engage the first edge of the slots.

Claim 7 (Original): The console of claim 1 wherein the first feet have a sloped heel portion to pass into and out of the slots.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): The console of claim 1 wherein the first feet have a ramped forward portion to assist in movement of the body laterally toward ~~[[a]]the~~ first edge of the slots.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): The console of claim 8 wherein the first feet have first recess at the top end of the ramped forward portion.

Claim 10 (Original): The console of claim 1 wherein the body has a unitary construction.

Claim 11 (Original): The console of claim 1 wherein the first and second feet are adjacent opposite ends of the body.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): The console of claim 1 wherein when the first and second feet are received in the slots ~~such that~~ the body is substantially free from forward and rearward movement relative to the top cover.

Claim 13 (Currently amended): The console of claim 1 wherein when the first and second feet are received in the slots ~~such that~~ the body is substantially free from lateral movement relative to the top cover.

Claim 14 (Currently amended): A console for an appliance having a cabinet with a top cover, comprising:
a body having a front surface adapted for a control panel of an appliance, a left surface, and a right surface;
a pair of left feet and a pair of right feet extending downwardly from the body;
the left feet being adapted to fit through left slots in the top cover of the appliance, such that the left feet ~~fits~~ fit through the left slots, the body moves in a leftward direction toward a first edge of the left slots, and the body flexes when the left feet are obstructed by the first edge of the left slots;
the right feet being adapted to fit through right slots in the top cover of the appliance, such that the right feet fit through the right slots when the body flexes and the right feet engage a second edge of the right slots when the body is static.

Claim 15 (Original): The console of claim 14 further comprising front feet extending downwardly from the front surface, the front feet adapted to fit through front slots in the top

cover of the appliance, such that the front feet fit through the front slots, the body moves in a leftward direction toward a first edge of the front slots, and the body flexes when the front feet are obstructed by the first edge of the front slots.

Claim 16 (Original): The console of claim 14 wherein the left feet have a left recess adapted to engage the first edge of the left slots.

Claim 17 (Original): The console of claim 14 wherein the right feet have a right recess adapted to engage the second edge of the right slots.

Claim 18 (Original): The console of claim 15 wherein the front feet have a left recess adapted to engage the first edge of front slots.

Claim 19 (Currently amended): A method of attaching a console to a laundry appliance with a top cover, comprising:

providing a body having a first side surface and a second side surface, a pair of first feet and a pair of second feet extending downwardly from the body for mounting the console to the top cover;

providing [[a]]the top cover of [[a]]the laundry appliance ~~having with slots with having~~ first and second opposite edges, the slots corresponding with the pair of first feet and the pair of second feet;

inserting the first feet into the corresponding slots in the top cover, moving the body laterally toward the first edge of the slots, and flexing the body when the first feet are obstructed by the first edge of the slots;

fitting the second feet into corresponding slots in the top cover when the body is flexing and releasing the body so that the second feet engage the second edge of the corresponding slots.

Claim 20 (Original): The console of claim 19 further comprising:

providing a front surface adapted for a control panel of the appliance between the first side surface and the second side surface, front feet extending downwardly from the front surface;

fitting the front feet through corresponding slots in the top cover, such that the front feet fit through the slots and moving the body laterally toward the first edge of the slots.

Claim 21 (New): A console for an appliance having a cabinet with a top cover, comprising:

the top cover of the cabinet having a left slot, a right slot, and an undersurface adjacent the left and right slots;

the console having a left foot and a right foot;

the left foot having a forward portion projecting in a left direction;

the right foot having a forward portion projecting in a right direction;

the left foot of the console body being within the left slot of the top cover with the forward portion thereof facing the undersurface adjacent the left slot;

the right foot of the console body being within the right slot of the top cover with the forward portion thereof facing the undersurface adjacent the right slot; and
the console body being flexible to permit the flexing of the console body during insertion of the left foot and the right foot of the console into the left slot and the right slot of the cabinet.

Claim 22 (New): The console of claim 21 wherein the console has at least one intermediate foot between the left and right feet, and the top cover includes at least one intermediate slot between the left and right slots, the at least one intermediate foot of the console being within the at least one intermediate slot of the top cover.

Claim 23 (New): A method of attaching a console having a front face, a rear face, a left end and a right end to a laundry appliance comprising:
providing the console with a left foot adjacent the left end of the console and a right foot adjacent the right end of the console, the left and right feet each having a forward portion projecting in left and right directions respectively;
providing the top cover with a left slot, a right slot, and an undersurface adjacent the left and right slots respectively;
inserting one of the left and right feet of the console into one of the left and right slots respectively;
flexing the console to move the left and right feet toward one another;
inserting the other of the left and right feet of the console into the other of the left and right slots while the console is flexed; and

permitting the left and right feet of the console to move away from one another so that the forward portions of the left and right feet face toward the undersurface adjacent the left and right slots.

Claim 24 (New): The method of claim 23 and further comprising inserting an intermediate foot of the console between the left and right feet of the console into an intermediate slot in the top cover of the cabinet.